

## Claims

- [c1] 1. A retaining method for the interior connection of a male and female member comprising:
  - A standard internal retaining ring
  - A female member having a standard retaining ring groove
  - A male member having a shaft and a retaining ring groove, which when assembled with the retaining ring can be axially inserted into the female member, forming a simple connection.
- [c2] 2. A retaining method as set forth in claim 1 wherein either the male or female member also has a groove for capturing a sealing element to seal against pressurized liquid or gas.
- [c3] 3. A retaining method as set forth in either claim 1 or 2 wherein the female member has a gradual taper leading into the said retaining ring groove allowing for hand assembly, and thus creating a quick connection.
- [c4] 4. A retaining method as set forth in claim 3 wherein the male member has a retaining ring groove that is equal to or less than the internal diameter of the fully com-

pressed retaining ring without consideration of the lugs, and a cutout of sufficient depth to allow access to the lugs. Thus, providing a means of removal of the said retaining ring and male member after assembly.